LAW

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE inder the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. **Application Number** 10/828,705 **TRANSMITTAL** Filing Date April 21, 2004 First Named Inventor **FORM** Zielinski et al. Art Unit 2856 **Examiner Name** Rodney T. Frank (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of	Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	37041-114	106		
ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)							
Fee Transmittal Form Fee Attached  Amendment/Reply After Final Affidavits/declaration(s)  Extension of Time Request Express Abandonment Request Information Disclosure Statement  Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53			Drawing(s)  Licensing-related Papers  Petition  Petition to Convert to a  Provisional Application  Power of Attorney, Revoca  Change of Correspondence  Terminal Disclaimer  Request for Refund  CD, Number of CD(s)  Landscape Table on	tion e Address		Appea of App Appea (Appea Proprii Status Other below)	Allowance Communication to TC all Communication to Board leals and Interferences all Communication to TC all Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) letary Information Letter Enclosure(s) (please Identify) litents; postcard
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT							
Firm Name							
Signature	Mala	1					
Printed name	Mark P. Vrla						
Date	May 16, 2005			Reg. No.	43,973		
CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING  I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:							
Signature In and Illus							
Typed or printed r	name Loralne Perry	Ì				Date	May 16, 2005

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Certificate of Mailing: I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313 this 16th day of May, 2005.

	(Type Name of Person Mayling Correspondence)	
OIPE	E Signature May 16, 2005 Date	
MAY 20	IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRA	DEMARK OFFICE
TRADE	In re Application of: Zielinski et al.	
	Serial No. 10/828,705 )	
	Filed: April 21, 2004	
	Group Art Unit: 2856 )	
	Examiner: Rodney T. Frank )	
	Title: Proximity Sensor for Level Sensing )	
		•

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98, and in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56, the Office's attention is directed to the patents listed on the attached PTO-1449. A copy of each of the listed documents is enclosed.

This Statement is being filed after the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

However, each item of information contained in this Statement was first cited in a communication from the International Searching Authority in a counterpart international application not more than

three months prior to the filing of this Statement. A copy of the International Search Report is also enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark P. Vrla

Registration No. 43,973

Dated: May 16, 2005

JENNER & BLOCK LLP One IBM Plaza Chicago, IL 60611

Ph: (312) 923-2657 fax: (312) 840-7657

O 1 P E 50 105 H

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

Sheet 1

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known				
Application Number	10/828,705			
Filing Date	April 21, 2004			
First Named Inventor	Zielinski et al.			
Art Unit	2856	-		
Examiner Name	Rodney T. Frank			
Attorney Docket Number	37041-11406			

				DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number  Number-Kind Code <sup>2 (f known)</sup>	Publication Date  MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		us- 6,138,508	10/31/2000	Hannan et al.	
		<sup>US-</sup> 5,423,214	06/13/1995	Lee	
		<sup>US-</sup> 4,383,444	05/17/1983	Beaman et al.	
		<sup>US-</sup> 4,352,159	09/28/1982	Colby	
		US-			
-		US-			
		US-	1		
		US-			

	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Cite Initials* No.1		Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages			
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		Or Relevant Figures Appear	T⁵		

Examiner	Date	te	
Signature	Con	nsidered	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="https://www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

MAY 2 0 2005

PTO/SB/08B (08-03) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE to persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 199 Complete if Known Substitute for form 1449/PTO **Application Number** 10/828,705 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE Filing Date April 21, 2004 STATEMENT BY APPLICANT **First Named Inventor** Zielinski et al. Art Unit 2856 (Use as many sheets as necessary) **Examiner Name** Rodney T. Frank Attorney Docket Number Sheet 2 2 37041-11406 of

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>		
		copy of International Search Report from the corresponding PCT application			
		,			

Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.